# The Retribution

BERNSTEIN COMMUNICATION

Coogan opened the letter which the letter carrier had just handed him and produced a check which made him smile. The check was made out for \$200 and the name signed to it, John T. Coolidge, was a guarantee that the check was good for that amount at any time.

It was very pleasant to receive a ebeck once a month from another man just because you happened to know something about him which would make it very unpleasant for him if his wife and family heard about it. For this was really much easier than Mr. Coogan's regular profession, for he was a burglar, and, occasionally, did not hesitate to hold up a man at any time if he thought he could get away. It was also far tesa risky, for Mr. Coogan was a careful man. The state had once given him free lodging for a considerable length of time while he was younger and less smart. He did not desire the hospitality of the state again and was therefore very much pleased with the regular checks from his friend. It occurred to him, however, that he ought to get more money out of Coolidge. Mr. Coogan had once been rather extravagant. He loved to dress well and live well, and pesides he was an inveterate poker player and fully convinced of his own ability to pick the winning horse on any track. Mr. Coogan was no oritnary criminal. He had a certain education and was known among the people of the under world as "Gentleman George." Now he sat and smoked an excellent cigar and thinkng of how much money it would be possible for him to get out of Cooldge. He had already succeeded once and his original demand had been for only one hundred dollars a aonth. He had the man in his power, of that he was sure. Coolidge would no doubt pay money to any amount. The question was how much ae was able to pay. He was no milconaire but quite well off. He had a good business and could surely tand for more than two hundred tollars. . . . .

Coolidge looked at Coogan with an expression of hatred, fear and disjust as he entered his office. His ace was by no means weak and most eople would have hesitated to try tackmail on him. Coogan had hestated himself, but not very long. hat was at the time when he didn't now the strength of his own posi-

"Good morning Mr. Coolidge," 'oogan, said cordially. "A beautiful orning, isn't it? May I have your ind attention for a few minutes?" Coolidge sent his stenographer

way and turned around in his chair. te knew very well what was coming. "I regret to say, Mr. Coolidge that y expenses have increased rather armingly of late. I don't want to em immodest, but I think it we id a wise thing for you to raise my onthly salary to three hundred dolrs. If it wouldn't be an inconvento you, I would you would make out a check now r next month's, and besides give me other check for five hundred doles which would come in very handy me."

Coolidge turned pale. He felt e catching the man by the throat fd squeezing the life out of him. t he thought of the result and he in't dare move.

"How is this going to end Coon? How long do you think I'm ing to stand for this? I'm not a th man and I cannot raise your saly as you call it a hundred dollars nonth every time you feel like it." 'Oh, I think you may be able to se it at least this time," Coogan plied. "Three hundred dollars a ntn will not break you. People in ur position ought to have regular ounts' set aside for this purpose. a ought to provide for expenses of mey to pay your rent and taxes. se privilege of being rich and hav-; a good reputation is worth some-

"I will not allow you to ruin me, t out of this office and do your arst, you scoundrel

"Certainly, my dear friend, I will · that," Coogan replied calmly, iking toward the dor. "11 1 i't have three hundred dollars a inth I shall rather have nothing at

His hand was already on the lock en Coolidge called him back, Cooı sat down with a smile while his tim made out a check for three adred and handed it to him.

Then there is still that little examount of five hundred," Coogan spered.

coolidge made out another check I gave it to the man.

Good morning, Mr. Coolidge.' igan said, almost amiably, and

Coolidge did not reply, but when door had closed behind the ekmatier he sat for a few moments deture of helpless despair. Then opened a drawer of his desk and k out a revolver. He looked into , barrel and placed it against his aple. Then he put it back into drawer.

'No, I'm not as big a coward as s," he mumbled.

Pwo weeks later James Flynn. own to the police as "Red Neck ,'an," invited Coogan to take part

in a nightly excursion, and him very willing to do so. He had had bad luck at poser and the right horse had not won. Coogan was again in need of money. He didn't want to go to Coolidge right away, and was, therefore, ready for any kind of a job.

It was thus that it happened that the two men crawled through a winnew into a house which Flynn had kept his eye on during the previous days. They went through the dining room, where they examined the silver, but suddenly Flynn gave a low whistle, which meant that he heard somebody coming.

The two men stood perfectly still for a moment and both heard somebody coming.

"I don't want any shooting done," Flynn whispered as he ran through the next room and jumped out of the window. Coogan had also made a start, but in the darkness he ran against a chair and dropped his revolver. He was trying to find the weapon when suddenly the electric light was turned on and Coogan looked into the muzzle of another revolver. And behind the revolver stood John T. Coondge.

Coogan breathed easier for surely Coolidge would not give him up to the police.

'Well, Mr. Coolidge," he said jokingly, "I did not know that this was your house. It is rather fortunate for me, and perhaps you too, that it happened to be yours. Otherwise 1 should probably have been sent up. Coolidge smiled pleasantly.

"Sit down please," he said, and let use tall matters over."

"There's nothing to talk over," Coogan replied; "you can't give me up to the police, for if you do I would tell them everything I know about you.

Coolidge sat down opposite Coogan, still covering him with his revolver. It was an entirely different Coolidge from the man Coogan had seen before.

No. I will not give you up to the police," Coolidge replied; "that might make it unpleasant for me, as you say, I will turn you over to a different authority."

"What do you mean?"

"A public undertaker." Coogan turned pale, but showed no sign of fear.

'So you are going to kill me. That would be murder and you know unpleasant things happen to murderers, too, sometimes.

Coolidge laughed.

"Do you really know as little as that about our laws, Mr. Coogan? Don't you know that every citizen has a perfect right to shoot down a man who breaks into his house. It the utmost to acquit me.

"It would be a moral murder, even if it would be according to the law, and if you wouldn't be punished in this world you would surely have to suffer for it in the next."

"I don't believe in Hell," Coolidge said caimly. "You have caused me to believe that Hell exists in this life, and you made it exceedingly hot for me during the last year. In a minute it will be all over and I will once more be a free man. Are you ready to die, Coogan?"

Instead of replying Coogan made a rush for Coolidge, who fired, and the nurgiar fell to the ground. Stooping over him he fired three more bullets into the body. Then he went to the telephone and called up the police headquarters.

Effect of Vegetables on Human Race.

The recent Pathological congress held in Paris has given us some curious facts about vegetables and their effect upon the human race. The members of the congress after numerous experiments, have agreed that, although some vegetables are a preventitive against diseases of one sort or another, there are many others which have the opposite effect. They declare, for instance, that potatoes should be eaten by judges, magistrates, editors and those engaged in similar occupations, because they develop the reasoning faculties and give great mental balance and calmness of reflection. Overindulgence, however, produces apathy, indifference, and laziness. Confirmed potato eaters are likely to possess more reasoning powers than warmth of heart.

Carrots are especially recommended for curing bad tempers, besides being good for bilious and peevish tolk. Persistent eating of boiled carrots will cure jealousy, melancholy, feelings of wrath and revenge, In fact, the nature of the carrot eater, in course of time, will undergo a complete change and make him easygoing, good natured, and placidly affectionate.

Spinach is good for men of action. All great generals have devoured it in large quantities. It develops will power, decision, ambition, energy, and it is the ideal food for fickle and hestating people. proper diet of spinach will put an end to dawdling in any household. Those who yearn for poetle thoughts and artistic ideas should feed largely on French beans. They create poets. Sorrel, on the other sand, tends to sadness and discouragement, and those who persist in eating it become victims of the dream habit, or nightmares and delusions .- 'rit-Bits.

Why, Of Course.

"Is the detached cuff in good taste?" asks an exchange. Sure, if it is detached long enough to go to the laundry occasionally.

# WAY OF MAKING LIFE EASIER

Many Electrical Devices to Save Cash and Economize Energy In Operating

## ELECTRIC COOKING IS TASTIER

Ash Sifers and Moth Traps, Smokeless Ranges and Mechanical Razors Are Already Here, and a Wireless Telephone for Every Navigator.

#### **ELECTRICAL INVENTIONS** THAT MAKE LIFE EASIER

Incandescent lamps which

give more light with less cur-An ash sifter that will save

over a ton of coal a year. Cheap and easy wireless telephony.

Cooking range that will do everything for 18 cents a day. A trap that will lure destroying tree moths from half a mile away.

A scrubber that will clean ships' bottoms at a trifling cost. A razor that will shave by simply turning the button.

A writer who has a turn for research and who is a close observer of modern progress in mechanics has enumerated and described some of the many electrical devices which have been invented recently and which have gone far toward making life, in its lesser details, more easy for humanity.

A large business has recently grown up in improved forms of incandescent lamps, which, while giving light at greatly enhanced efficiency, consume less current than the older types.

An electrical ash sifter has been designed to save the leak in coal and cinders thrown out with the ashes in household practice. The machine is simply constructed, being built on the revolving screen principle. Into the hopper of the outfit the ashes are dumped.

The cinders fall into a bin and a can receives the waste. It is estimated that in an ordinary household from a ton to a ton and a half of coal can will take a jury fifteen minutes at be thus recovered from the ashes in a year.

While recent progress in radio-telephony-the transmission of telephone talk without wires-has been comparatively slow, there is promise of steady development in some recent tests in Europe.

The French navy authorities have reported very satisfactory results in talking from the Elffel tower in Paris to Dieppe, 93 miles.

The apparatus used for this purpose is being continually simplified, and it bids fair soon to be applicable to a large number of vessels which cannot afford to carry a Morse operator, and whose necessity of wireless telephone conversation will be met by a system effective up to 100 miles.

Electric cooking, hitherto more or less of a luxury, is being brought by improved apparatus and reduction in the price of current within the reach of the ordinary householder.

One of these writes enthusiastically of the results by the employment in his own kitchen of an electric oven, a grill, an egg poacher, a toaster, and a 6 1-4-inch hot plate.

The cost of the current used in running the whole of the outfit for eight days was \$8.32, or \$1.04 per day; or 18 cents per day, or 2 cents per hour, for each grill, boiling plate and oven in use.

The flavor of meat electrically cooked is said to excel that of meat treated by any other method.

For the caterpillar plague which is having such a disastrous, effect on many of the forests of this country, a remedy is suggested by the action of the municipal authorities of a German town. The brown nun moths had been ravaging the trees of the valley in which the town is situated, and many of the densely planted sections were threatened with destruction.

An electric light trap was constructed. Lights of high power were fixed in position, and behind them, put over a deep receptacle and large exhaust fans, were two powerful reflectors. The whole was installed on the top of the municipal electric plant build-

At night two great streams of light are thrown from the reflectors on the woods on the sides of the mountain half a mile away. The moths, drawn by the shining radiance, come fluttering in myriads along the broad lanes of light.

As they reach the reflectors they are caught by the swirl of the exhaust fans and carried down on the grip of the current of air to the receptacle below. It is said that on the first night the trap was put in opera-

tion three tons of moths were caught. The latest thing in a man's dressing kit is the electric razor. The stationary part of this device is simply an ordinary safety razor, consisting of a handle, a blade, and a blade holder, attached directly to the spiral shaft of a vibrator. Running up the handle of the razor is a rotary eccenric, which twists the blade around at "y desired speed.

FISHING IN JAPAN.

Three of us, two Americans and one

Japanese Rods Lighter Than Ours, but the Hooks Have No Barbs.

Japanese, started out in jinrikishas from Taipeh, the modern capital of Formosa, or Taiwan, to go to the house of a wealthy gentleman about eight miles up the river, which runs through the valley of Taipeh, says Forest and Stream. The way led through a beautiful and fertile couniry, the valley covered with second crop of rice and the hills with the famous Formosan tea shrubs. After luncheon and after photographing some head-hunting savages we found there, we proceeded to fish for salmon trout, at an altitude less than 250 feet above sea level and in latitude about 24 degrees, 40 minutes north, practieally in the tropics. The temperature of thestream was about 70 or higher, and the water was well aerated. This stream, from 60 to 100 yards wide, is clear and full of rapids and riffles. We used Japanese tackle-horse hair line and horse hair leader (the latter consisting of one strand only), a sambon rod and a most delicate palmer ded on a small barbles; hook. The rod is decidedly good, and weight for weight is stronger and better easter than our jointed rod. It rarely weight over four ounces-mine weighed about two -but the line is practically worthless for easting, as we understand the term. The fly is perfect, but the hook lacks strength, and the fish when hooked may easily detach himself in a current or an eddy, or by fouling the line. We all know how it is done from our experience with pin and hook and thread in the brooks at home.

The Japanese, however, have another method of fishing, which may be as new to some of our readers as it was to me. It is quite successful. They eatch one fish in any way they can, and then fasten the line securely through its upper jaw, passing it through the roof of the mouth and out at the top of the upper jaw, well in front of the eyes, and then attach through the body of the fish, not far in front of the tail, a horse hair, to which s tied a three-pronged barbless hook, which trails in line with the fish and a few inches behind while it is slowly worked up the stream by the fisherman. The theory is that other fisher, seeing the captive moving along as though feeding, or perhaps spawning. will pursue it, and become impaled on the hooks. In point of fact this does happen, as I saw a Chinaman take two

fine trout in this manner. Our success with flies was poor. We got thirteen or fourteen fingelings but we saw the fish we wished to idenify caught in fairly good numbers by the Chinese, fishing with decoys Doubtless with large flies and better tackle than we had, we might have had fine sport. It seems unusual to find a member of the salmonidae family so near the sea level in such alti tudes. The fish is the plecoglossus altivelis. It has no spot, but iridescent lines along its sides, parallel to the long axle. It has also the adipose dorsal fin. The snout of the male at this season overlays and turns downward somewhat, as does the snout of the male Chinook salmon late in the season. The plecaglossus weighs from one and a quarter to two pounds, is vigorous and shy, and as dainty a fish for the table as any that may be found. After a few hours' fishing, we descended the river in a rather clumsy flat-bottomed boat, racing down the rapids and sculling through the smooth places, until we found our rickshaws, and then home. All along the smooth water about dusk we saw the plecoglossus leaping after flies.

### Big Noses Rare in Japan.

In Japan the nose is the only feature which attracts attention. The nose determines the beauty or ugliness of the face, according as it is big or small. This is probably due to the fact that difference in noses constitutes about the only distinction between one Japarese face and another. The eyes are invariably black, the cheek bones high and the chin receding. In Japan woman who has a huge proboscis is always a great beauty and a reigning belle. There are a few large noses among the natives, and lucky is he or she upon whom nature lavishes one. In all Japanese pictures representing the supposedly beautiful woman, the artist invariably improves on nature by depleting this feature as abnormully developed.

A Zulu Girl's Headdress.

Of the many strange methods of dressing the bair the strangest is perhaps that of the Zulu girl shown in



the accompanying illustration. Not every girl of the same tribe may wear such a headdress.

It is a mark of approaching marriage, which carries with it perhaps more dignity than grace. The still roll is composed entirely of the wearer's own hair, which is laboriously sewn until the desired effect is obtained.

There is now an organization of retail automobile dealers, which probably means that no more automobiles will be found on the 19-cent counter.

# THE RUSSIAN POLICE

The Powerful Instrument by Which

Autocracy Rules. The Russian police is a rather complicated army with its generals, officers, etat-major, soldiers and spies, At the head of this powerful institution stands the Minister of the Interfor, or Home Secretary. The police regulations practically form his sole occupation, and all questions relative to the internal government and welfare of the country, such for instance as social hygiene, rural economy, justice, position of the peasantry, etc., only in so far concern the Minister of the Interior as they are more or less closely related to the movement of Liberalism and the emancipation of the people. In special cases, when the maintenance of order becomes imperative, the Minister is invested with unlimited power.

The general as well as the political and secret police are under his orders, governors and even general governors are his subordinates, and he possesses the undisputed right to dismiss any police officer, even the highest, informing only the imperial Government of the step taken through the council of Ministers. The heads of the provincial and district police are the governors and general governors, the ispravniks and their asistants. At the head of the town police stand the police master and his assistant or adjutant. The Minister of the Interior is also virtually the head of the political police, which has a police department with the safety and secret police sections and a corps of gendarmes at its disposal. The police department attached to the Ministry of the Interior, and to which all the lower police are subordinate, extends its active duties over the following fields:

Prevention and detection of crime and criminals.

The watching of the frontiers of the empire. Supervision of and issue of pass-

ports. Emigration.

Supervision of drinking establishments.

Measures preventing fire. Statutes regulating the establishment of various societies and permis-

sion to hold exhibitions and to give public entertainments. The government of Russia is based upon its police. Now western Europe has long ago broken the chains of autocratic and absolute government. Social and individual powerlessness, to which the jealousy of absolutist rulers had condemned their subjects, has gradually disappeared or is beginning to disappear. Not so in Russia. Here police and society represent two hostile camps engaged in a continuous war against one another, and the former, far from being the servant of the latter, is practically its master. Society is always being suspected by the police department and its officials. Suspected of what? Suspected of gradually awakening to political consciousness, of gaining the conviction that a radical change from

ter's attempts to gain political liberty. ARMY MULES OBEY ORDERS.

the political and economic points of

view is absolutely necessary for the

welfare of the country; but the Gov-

ernment, convulsively clinging to the

status quo, is deperately fighting against society, crushing all the lat-

Success in Handling the Animals Con-

sists in Knowing How. Horse and mule men at the Kansas City stock yards stood in admiration on a recent afternoon while the soldiers of Battery A and B, Second United States Artillery, under Lieut. R. O. Mason, loaded thirteen cars of mules in twenty-five minutes. It was a new record on the loading docks, and it wasn't accomplished by any unusual methods either. Nor was the mule driver's vocabulary resorted to. How did they do it? The lieutenant simply called the roll and the mules responded to their names.

"Nigger," called an officer, and a little black gun mule ambled up. "Now, Mollie, you're next; now Cyclone," and Cyclone came like a cy-

If a mule was refractory a few men in khaki took hold of him and pushed and shoved him into place.

"No wonder," said an envious mule driver, "they know their mules; they couldn't do them all that way."

"That so?" said a noncommissioned officer. "I guess we could. It's all in knowing how. You never want to flinch around a mule. Never look back when you leave him. After you know how mules are easier to handle than horses."

His Tribute.

The essential difference between the signification of words and terms in the English tongue which are al most the same in etymology and origin is a great element of difficulty to a foreigner who is learning the language-a fact to which a certain attache of a foreign mission at Washington recently testified.

When the budding diplomatist in question arrived at our national capital a year or two ago, he soon capitulated to the charms of a young woman of the official set, and they speedily became the best of friends. A month or so ago the attache returned to this country after a lengthy leave of absence passed in his own land. About the first thing he did on reaching Washington was to send a note to the lady of his admiration, wherein, to her astonishment and indignation, he gave expression to this sentiment:

"Once more, my dear friend, I shall gaze upon your unmatched eyes."-Harper's Weekly.

GRATUITOUS PLEASANTRIES.

The Tobacconist Gets a Lesson in the Art of Joking.

"You must be goin out to see the girl," observed the friendly tobacconist to the young man who had

just purchased a cigar. "What's that?" asked the young man, sharply, pausing in the act of

lighting his Havana second. His manner was disconcerting, but the tobaconist repeated his surmise. "You're fixed up so," he add-"Flower in your buttonhole, moustache curled. You're looking

all right." "I didn't ask you how I looked," said the young man, morosely. came in here to buy me a smoke."

"That's all right," said the tobacconist, soothingly. "I didn't mean to hurt your feelin's. There ain't shy harm in a feller going to see a girl as I know of. I've done it myself."

"I may be going to sit up with a sick grandmother, for all you know, said the young man in nowise placated. "If I get my moustache curled I guess it's my business."

"Sure. That's all right." "I don't know whether it is or I didn't get fresh about your bald spot when I came in here. You don't need to get mad about

said the tobacconist. "If I want to wear a flower guess it's my privilege," continued the young man. "I may went flower every day in the week and two on Sunday. You don't know You never saw me before as I know of. You've probably got me mixed up with somebody you went to school with, the way you talk."

"I'l' take it all back," said the tobacconist.

"You'd better not bring it out the next time," said the young man with a threatening shake of the "You can't make a monker of me, I want to tell you. You're a josher, you are. You must think that line o' talk is a trade getter. If I've got a girl I don't remember introducing her to you. How would it be if you tended to your cigar business? Say if you've got any friends you must josh them something fierce."

"Now ,see here-" began the tobaconist.

"If you've got anything to say about my necktie you might as well get it off your mind," said the young man. "Maybe you'd like to know

about the girl to,o." "No, sir, I don't," said the tobacconist, wrathfully. "I don't care a hang about her or about you. You can go and see her or you can stay away from her, just as you dera please, just so long as you get out of this store. A man may have a grouch, but he can't rub it into me,

more than about so much." The young man turned to the cigar lighter and lit his cigar with ostentatious deliberation. At the door he turned.

"Talking about that bald spot of yours," he said ."it looks as if you'd been having trouble with your wife."

.The tobacconist glared at the spot where the young man had stood for nearly a minute. Then his features relaxed. "Maybe I ain't the first told him that this afternoon," said.

The Two Alternatives.

"We get some sad cases," said the attendant at the lunatic asylum to the visitor and opened the door to the first cell.

Inside was a man sitting on a

stool and gazing vacantly at the

wall. "Yad story," said the attendant; "he was in love with a girl, but she married another man and he lost his reason from grief."

They stole out softly, closing the doo behind them, and proceeded the next inmate. This cell was hickly padded, and the man within was stark, staring mad. "Who is this?" inquired the visi-

"This," repeated the attendant-'this is the other man."

HAD HELP.



'I don't see how he stopped both smoking and drinking. 1 couldn't

"You haven't met his wife, have you?"

Awake All the Time. "That new preacher you have is 2 pretty wideawake young man, isn't "Yep. Keeps right on preaching

Poor Fellow.

Reporter You were not always wealthy, I believe?

Billionaire-No, I have seen the time when I couldn't afford to bus a five thousand dollar automobile.

when everybody else is asleep."